(Rev. 10-90) NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

removed from the National Register

____ determined not eligible for the National Register

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the

____ See continuation sheet.

National Register
See continuation sheet.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all 1. Name of Property historic name Vincent, William H., House other names/site number 183-5002 2. Location not for publication street & number 23016 Main Street vicinity city or town Capron state Virginia code VA county Southampton code 175 23829 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.) 6 Now Louis Signature of certifying official Virginia Department of Historic Resources State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

__ other (explain):

Date of Action

Signature of Keeper

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate

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Vincent House Southampton County, Virginia

5. Classification		
Ownership of Property (Check	is many boxes as apply)	
X private		
public-local		
public-State		
public-Federal		
Category of Property (Check on	dy one box)	
X building(s)	•	
district		
site		
structure		
object		
Number of Resources within Pr	operty	
Contributing Noncontributi	ng	
51 building		
0 0 sites	,-	
0 2 structur	es	
0	U 3	
5 3 Total		
Name of related multiple property N/A	y listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a n	nultiple property listing.)
6. Function or Use		
Historic Functions (Enter catego	ories from instructions)	
Cat: Domestic	Sub: Single Dwelling	
Religious	Church School Secondary Structure	
Domestic	Secondary Structure	
Social	Civic	
Current Functions (Enter catego	ories from instructions)	
	0 1 0 1 5 11	
<u>Domestic</u>		
Social	Civic	

OMB No. 1024-4018

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Vincent House Southampton County, Virginia

7. Description	on
	al Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>Late V</u>	ictorian: Queen Anne
Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
	ion Brick
roof	Tin
walls	Aluminum, Wood
other B	Brick, Wood
Narrative I sheets.)	Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation
8. Statemer	nt of Significance National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for
	gister listing)
A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
<u>X</u> B X C	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<u>X</u> _C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and
D	distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.
Criteria Co	onsiderations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B	removed from its original location.
C	a birthplace or a grave.
D	a cemetery.
E	a reconstructed building, object or structure.
F	a commemorative property.
G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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Vincent House Southampton County, Virginia

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture
Settlement
Social History
Period of Significance 1889-1953
Terror of Significance 1005 1755
Significant Dates 1889
1909
<u>1950-1953</u>
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
W. H. Vincent and William Vincent Rawlings
Cultural Affiliation
Architect/Builder
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
9. Major Bibliographical References
Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS)
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been
requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
Primary Location of Additional Data
X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other
Name of repository:
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property 1.1
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
1 18 40 64 543N 3 03 412 E
1 10 40 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04

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Vincent House Southampton County, Virginia

Verbal	Bo	undary	Description
_			

See continuation sheet	i	
Boundary Justificati		
See continuation sheet		
11. Form Prepared I	By	
name/title: Maure	en L. Shelly, Owner with assistance	te from Mary C. Taylor
Organization:		date June 30, 2003
street & number: 2301	5 Main Street - P.O. Box 134	telephone <u>434-658-3050</u>
city or town	CAPRON	state VA zip code 23829
Additional Documen	tation	
Submit the following	items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets		
	or 15 minute series) indicating the istoric districts and properties havi	property's location. ng large acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs Representative bla	ck and white photographs of the pr	operty.
Additional items (Ch	eck with the SHPO or FPO for any	additional items)
Property Owner		
•	t the request of the SHPO or FPO.) y and Maureen L. Shelly	
street & number 2301	6 Main Street tel	ephone <u>434-658-3050</u>
city or town	<u>CAPRON</u> sta	te_VA_zip code23829

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Narrative Description

Summary

As the first house built in the Capron settlement in 1889, the Vincent House stands as a large two-story private residence located on Main Street, just off of Highway 58, in Southampton County, Virginia. It was in continuous use by the same family for three generations until 2001. Since it's construction, it has served the needs of the community religiously, politically and socially and served to create and influence the development of the community. The house embodies the Queen Anne style, popular during the late nineteenth century. Originally depicting the Eastlake style of ornamentation to include a wrap around porch with turned columns, balusters, spindle bands and gingerbread, the house evolved with later additions, removal of the balusters, much of the gingerbread and turned porch columns, which were replaced with classical Doric columns ca. 1909. The asymmetrical plan along with complex rooflines, corner tower and wrap-around porch demonstrates the intentional mixture of classic and Gothic architectural elements defining the Queen Anne style. Aside from a few modern changes to the home, the house remains much as it has for more than 100 years.

Exterior Description of Main House (Contributing)

A Queen Anne Victorian, the Vincent house reveals a brick foundation, with brick skirting around the wrap around porch. This two-story home features a cross gable roof, tower, modillioned cornice and wrap-around porch. The south façade is dominated by the first floor porch and corner gazebo, which is topped with a conical tin roof. The porch is constructed of wood plank flooring with a tongue and groove roof covering the entire porch. The porch extends from the middle of the west side of the home and wraps around the south side to the middle of the east elevation. The original porch featured Eastlake style wooden turned columns supporting the porch roof and spindle work frieze, with a railing and delicate balusters. The porch was renovated ca. 1909, which saw the turned columns replaced with classical Doric columns and the baluster and spindle bands removed as well as the spindle work frieze. It was also at this time that the tower was added to the southern façade of the home along with the corner gazebo. The tower features a decorative wooden half-round shingle covering and is also topped with a conical tin roof. The southern gable features the same peak spindle work as well as the corner bracketing above the bay window as the original home. The spindle work has been retained in both the east and west gable peaks as well. Vinyl siding was

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added to the home covering the original wooden boards in the 1970's.

One solid wood window door on the south side remains original, featuring a finger turn doorbell. The east and west screen doors are also original with wood gingerbread and original cast iron hardware. The original wooden two over two double-hung sash, wavy glass windows have been retained, with the first floor ones having aluminum framed storm windows added to protect them. The exterior has been maintained in good condition and except for the normal repairs and replacement of primarily wooden structures, specifically the porch and wooden ornamentation, the house remains original, without any major deterioration or structural compromises. The porch changes ca. 1909 and the enclosure of the rear porches in the 1960s are the only significant exterior changes to the home.

Detailed Interior Description of Main Home

The main entrance to the house is located in the corner tower. The interior of the tower features a semi-circular entry room with a fireplace with tiered mantel, insert beveled mirror and an ornate fireplace cover of sculptured relief in cast iron. The walls and ceiling are covered in plaster with crown molding framing the 11' ceiling as it does in all of the other rooms on the first floor. The original pine floors continue throughout the house. This entry room remains original, including the elaborately formal, red, custom made drapery that hangs from the windows. Three passageways feed into the entry room, with the one directly across from the front entrance containing the stairs leading to the second floor. To the west of the main door is the entry into the formal living room and to the east is entry into a paneled study/office. The office/study features a chair rail in addition to the crown molding. Bay windows stretch across the south wall of the living room. The living room also leads into a small room on the west side of the home.

The living room opens on the north side into a large formal dining room decorated with wainscoting. This room also reveals a small hole in the pine floor where the cord for a servant's bell ran under the house and into the butler's pantry, which is located just off of this room. The butler's pantry contains a hole in the floor as well to receive the bell's cord. The pantry differs from the other rooms on the first floor in that it only contains an 8' ceiling. The large kitchen features whitewashed pine walls and custom cabinetry crafted by a local cabinetmaker, which extend from floor to ceiling on three walls. This room has seen some remodeling with updated plumbing and mechanics and the pine floor has been covered with linoleum. The large cook fireplace was covered with whitewash

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paneling when the kitchen was modernized. There is also a radiator as well as a side exit leading into a small screened in porch that makes up the final end of the wrap around porch on the west side of the house.

To the north of the kitchen is the family room, which was originally known as the Sunday school porch. The walls are paneled in knotty pine and are trimmed with crown molding. This room was created from the porch by Norvella Pope Rawlings (1923-2000), wife of the late Senator Rawlings, in the 1960's. The room features hardwood floors with a Dutch door exiting to the rear of the home. A small bathroom was also added to this area. In addition to the Sunday school porch, two other porch areas on the north side of the home were enclosed to create one large concrete floored utility room featuring the back stairway and another small room to house the boiler. This was added to provide radiator heat, which is still in use today.

The main stairway is also accessible from the family room. The stair hall features wainscoting, which rises on the walls along with the stairs, past three different designs of newel posts and continues throughout the second floor hall.

The second floor rooms feature crown molding, pine floors and 9' ceilings. The large master bedroom contains a walk-in-closet with built in cedar chests and bay windows. An original gas light fixture converted to electric graces the ceiling and the bathroom features all of the original fixtures. The walls feature decorative plaster, built in cabinets and drawers, and a beveled mirrored medicine cabinet.

A small room is located to the east of the master bedroom and occupies the second floor of the tower. A solid wood Victorian style door with original hardware including working skeleton lock and key separates this room from the master bedroom. Two other large bedrooms with small closets make up the front of the second story. The walls in these two rooms have been covered with wallpaper.

The north half of the second floor is separated in the main hall by a set of French doors. This leads into a series of four other rooms. The sleeping porch and small bedroom feature tongue and groove walls and ceiling as well as windows stretching the entire length of all outside walls. The back staircase entrance is situated between these two rooms. A large bedroom with the original converted light fixture is located off of the sleeping porch. This room also features leads into a bathroom with

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the original wainscoting and sink.

Outbuildings

Contributing buildings and structures include the two-room office building, a playhouse, a barn and the Ambrose House. In addition to these, there is non-contributing barn on the property and a non-contributing brick gazebo.

The Ambrose House (contributing) is named after the last resident, Ms. Ambrose, who was the housekeeper for the Vincent House. A construction date is not known for this structure and an exact date is not known for when it was moved to this location, but it was moved historically to the property prior to 1953. Built on brick supports, the house stands one and a half stories with wood siding and a tin roof. There are four wooden double-hung sash six over six windows. There is no plumbing in the building. The interior houses a fireplace with simple wood mantel, wood floors and walls, and a small closet. A steep narrow staircase leads to the second half story, which is entered through a trap door in the ceiling. The second floor has one window and bare roof beams. The house is currently in a deteriorated condition.

A small wood frame child's playhouse (contributing) was constructed in 1889 with the main house. It rests on brick supports and features wood siding and a rolled tin roof. The interior has a wooden floor, plaster 6' ceiling and walls and a mock fireplace with a simple wood mantel. One two over two wooden double-hung sash window is located on each of the two sides of the playhouse. The front door is of wood planking with original late 19th century door hinges, knobs and lock. The playhouse is in good condition.

William Rawlings added a small pony barn (non-contributing) to the property around 1958. This wood frame structure sits on a concrete foundation and features a tin roof, one window opening and an open doorway. This structure remains original with some restoration and repairs that used primarily original materials. The small barn continues to be used for the current owner's pony.

A larger wood frame barn (contributing) stands across from the pony barn on a concrete foundation and is topped with a tin roof. The interior of the larger barn in paneled with bead board, including the ceiling. An attic is accessed through a small opening in the ceiling. It was built prior to the pony barn, but the date could not be determined.

OMB No. 1924-0018

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The Brick Octagon shaped Gazebo (non-contributing) was built ca. 1909 and has no foundation. The conical shaped roof of asbestos shingles was replaced in the 1990's after the original roof collapsed. Used as a flower house, the Gazebo was framed and enclosed with wooden planks in the 1970's. The Gazebo is in good condition, requiring some masonry repairs to the brick due to settling, however the structure is solid and not compromised.

Mr. and Mrs. William V. Rawlings added a concrete in-ground pool (non-contributing) to the property making it the first residential in-ground pool in the area. Mrs. Norvella Rawlings opened the pool for all children, with strict safety guidelines. The pool has deteriorated and is no longer in use.

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Statement of Significance

Summary Statement

Mr. William H. Vincent constructed the Vincent House in 1889 as the first home in newly formed Capron. The Queen Anne structure retains many original features including the floors, several windows and fixtures. Mr. Vincent was instrumental in bringing industry to the area and by partnering with G.W. Truitt began the Vincent-Truitt Lumber Company in 1889. His grandson, Mr. William Vincent Rawlings, also very important in the town's history, was hired as the Executive Secretary and General Council of the Hog and Peanut Association, the precursor to the Virginia Peanut Farmers Association Inc., in 1950. He converted a freestanding garage on the property to a two-room office for use as the Association's headquarters. It remains as their office to this day. Mr. Rawlings held several other prominent positions in the town including the president of the Ruritan club, a member of the Board of Directors for the Bank of Capron, chairman of the Southampton School Board and later as a Virginia State Senator. The Vincent House is significant under Criteria B for the parts that both Mr. William H. Vincent and Mr. William Vincent Rawlings played in the shaping of the Capron community and C for the significant amount of architectural integrity throughout the home.

Historic Background

The Vincent House is located in the town of Capron. This is a rural community consisting of primarily older residences. The first roads through Capron were merely paths over land owned by Mr. J.T. Barham. They had no names, but were open for county travel in 1889. Originally called Princeton, Capron stood in the thick wood, with no homes until the Danville-Atlantic railroad (later called the Southern) was constructed through this part of the country in 1888. The Railroad was owned by Mr. A. E. Baytaman, who sold it to Mr. Newgass from England. He then leased it to the Southern in 1895. The land, on which the railroad track was laid, was purchased from Mr. H.T. Barham. The first settlement in Capron was in 1888.

The train depot was the first building built in Capron in 1888 and was called Princeton in honor of

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Judge Prince of Courtland, who was vice-president of the railroad. Although no longer in use, the depot remains standing. A Post Office was opened in 1889 and called Cairo, however, because the depot had one name and the Post Office another, there was much confusion in handling mail and it often ended up in Cairo, WV. In order to stop confusion with the town being called Princeton and the post office being called Cairo, the town was renamed Capron in 1889 after the general freight and passenger agent of the railroad.² The same year, Mr. J.T. Barham opened a store in Capron. It continues to remain in operation as the feed store. Mr. William H. Vincent also opened a small store, which is now closed.

Criteria B: Property is associated with the lives of persons significant to our past.

The Vincent house was the first house built in Capron, constructed by Mr. William H. Vincent (1859-1919) in 1889. A logging contractor for Deal & Co., Mr. Vincent partnered with G.W. Truitt, conducting business under the name of Vincent-Truitt Lumber Company in 1889. In 1892, the Vincent-Truitt Lumber Company bought the sawmill and dry kiln from W.F. Deal, expanding their business.³ Aside from Mr. William H. Vincent's role in the economic beginnings of the town, he was also instrumental in developing the religious tone of Capron.

The Capron United Methodist Church had its beginning in the year 1889. At that time the few families living in the settlement of Capron had to travel four miles to attend church. They decided to establish a Sunday school of their own and a meeting was held on May 26, 1889 for this purpose. Mr. Vincent was the director of the Methodist Sunday school and members of the church used a large porch on the Vincent's home as the Sunday school until construction on the new building was completed in 1893. This porch was later converted into a large family room. ⁴

Mr. William H. Vincent, later donated the land for a second church and was instrumental in the founding of the Vincent Grove United Methodist Church, located a few miles from Main Street, in 1909. The land surrounding the church was covered with large oak trees, thus the name Vincent Grove. The small one-room structure was later replaced with a larger church building.

Mr. William Vincent Rawlings, the grand nephew of Mr. William H. Vincent, grew up as another prominent figure in the Town of Capron. Born at home in Capron in 1913, the late Senator William Vincent Rawlings was a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute. He received a law degree from the University of Virginia and established a law practice in the town of Franklin, about 18 miles

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away. Mr. William Rawlings served as mayor of Capron from March of 1950 until March of 1953. Mr. Rawlings was later voted into the Virginia State Senate, 15th Senatorial District in 1962.

With the lumber supply exhausted by 1927 and the dry kiln and sawmill closed, the area depended more and more on agriculture. Mr. William Vincent Rawlings was a hog and peanut farmer. In 1948, the Hog and Peanut Association was created and Mr. Rawlings was hired as the Executive Secretary and General Counsel in 1950. A car garage situated about 27 feet from the main house was converted into a two-room office building around 1949 and served as the headquarters for what is now called the Virginia Peanut Farmers Association, Inc. The two-room paneled office still remains in use as headquarters for the association. The creation of this association reflects the needs of the community and Mr. Rawling's contribution. The Association has operated under contract with the Virginia Peanut Board in carrying out the intent of the law that established the Peanut Excise Tax and in protecting the welfare of the Virginia Peanut producers. Mr. Rawlings also helped to create housing for families by selling small plots of land and building small homes for local families for purchase, thus satisfying local housing needs much to the appreciation of those families. Mr. William Vincent Rawlings also served on the Board of Directors for the Bank of Capron in 1955, which had been established in 1907. Mr. Rawlings continued to serve the State Senate and the Town of Capron until his death in 1975.

Both Mr. William H. Vincent and Mr. William Vincent Rawlings were instrumental in the development of the Town of Capron. Mr. Vincent built the first home in the new settlement and brought industry and religion to the population there. Mr. William Vincent Rawlings furthered the work of his great uncle by assisting in the development of the agriculture of the area through the Hog and Peanut Association and later through his service to the State Senate. Their legacy lives throughout the town and can be seen commemorated in numerous street names throughout the surrounding area.

Criteria C: Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

Constructed as the first home in the Town of Capron in 1889, the Vincent House epitomizes the Queen Anne Style. The home has retained a significant amount of architectural integrity with several original features including the original windows, floors and many fixtures as well as skeleton

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lock and keys. The home features a large wrap around porch with classical Doric columns that replaced the original Eastlake style turned columns in 1909. It was also at this time that a corner tower was added to the home. In addition to the porch and corner tower, a gazebo was also added to the wrap around porch. This was the last major renovation done to the home's exterior until the 1960's when the rear porches were enclosed. While the original more delicate porch columns were replaced, the elaborate wooden carvings in the gable peaks were retained as were the original wooden screened doors with gingerbread detailing.

The interior of the home includes the original flooring and gas fixtures, which have been converted to electric. There are also several original bathroom fixtures. The building's interior layout has remained authentic to the period with original wainscoting and crown molding appearing throughout the home as well.

In addition to the main home, there are several contributing outbuildings that are also architecturally significant. The Ambrose House is a contributing one-story wood frame structure with a wood clapboard exterior and a tin roof. The interior features one room downstairs with a single fireplace and a steep ladder leading to a small loft area through a trap door. This building was moved to this property and was named after the last housekeeper to use the building as living quarters. The child's playhouse, constructed in 1889, along with the main house is also a contributing outbuilding. This is a one-story, one room wood frame building topped with a tin roof. There are two wooden four over four double-hung sash windows. The interior features wood flooring and a mock fireplace with a plan wooden mantel. The original garage was converted into a contributing office to serve as the headquarters for the Hog and Peanut Association in 1949. This one-story, two room building features a wooden exterior and wooden six over six double-hung sash windows. The building is topped with a hipped roof.

Mr. William H. Vincent and William Vincent Rawlings were two very influential men in shaping the town of Capron. These two men and their contribution to the Capron community bring the Vincent House significance under criterion B. The Vincent House also exhibits an enormous amount of architectural integrity with a number of original features on both the interior and the exterior of the home. The maintenance of a significant amount of the original fabric warrants consideration under criterion C.

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Endnotes

Mrs. Daphne S. Hodges, "Originally known as Princeton, town of Capron had its beginnings when railroad came through county," *The Tidewater News*, Golden Anniversary Edition (1955): 6.

² Ibid.: 6.

³ lbid.: 6.

⁴ Mrs. Daphne S. Hodges, "Organized in 1909, Vincent's Grove Church serves thickly settled area," *The Tidewater News*, Golden Anniversary Edition (1955): 7.

⁵ Hodges: 6.

⁶ History of the Virginia Peanut Growers Association, Inc. Russell Schools. Virginia Peanut Growers Association:

⁷ Ibid.: 2.

⁶ "Advertisement, Bank of Capron", The Tidewater News, Golden Anniversary Addition (1955).

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Hodges, Mrs. Daphne S. "Organized in 1909, Vincent's Grove Church serves thickly settled area." *The Tidewater News*, Golden Anniversary Edition (1955): 7.

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Story, Will H. "Capron Ruritans rendering great service to area." *The Tidewater News*, Golden Anniversary Historical Edition (1955): 4.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The property's boundary begins at the East Side of the house moves south to the hedgerow separating the Vincent House from the adjacent property. It then goes west to the end of the large barn belonging to an adjacent property, continues west along the hedgerow for 200 yards from the railroad tracks. The property then moves east to the sidewalk, following the black wrought iron fence back to the front of the house.

Boundary Justification

The original property included all of the land stretching east to west from Main Street to Church Street. The land was divided after the death of the last Rawlings owner in 2001 and now is limited to the land on which the buildings immediately sit. Moving east to west this includes the main house and barn. From north to south, the property originally included the lot to the south. Mr. William Rawlings sold that property and a house was built upon it. Currently the property north to south includes the main house, gazebo, playhouse, Ambrose house, in ground pool, pony barn and large barn.

CAPRON GUADRANGLE

ET BENNOON ET HEARTSHEN EE ENEL EL ENEL